

Claims

1. Process for performing a remote setup procedure of a software application on a
5 remote client which operates under an operating system which does not support a
remote installation facility,

characterised in that it involves the steps of:

- 10 - installing (23) an executable file for controlling a local setup procedure under the
form of a low level service which is available in the operating system for local
background tasks and routines, said executable file being associated with the
description contained within a description file (*package.ini*) present on a shared
resource;

- 15 - starting (24) said executable file so as it becomes available to said remote client as
a service and permits the automatic launching of a local setup procedure in
accordance with the contents of said description file (*package.ini*).

- 20 2. Process for performing a remote setup procedure of a software application on a
remote client which operates under Windows NT on a Local Area Network (LAN),

characterised in that it involves the steps of:

- 25 - installing (23) an executable file for controlling a local setup procedure under the
control of the NT Service Control Manager (SCM) and in accordance with the
description contained within a description file (*package.ini*) present on a shared
resources; said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) receiving the format of a NT
service;

- 30 - starting (24) said executable file so as it becomes available to said PC client as a
service and permits the launching of a local setup procedure within said PC client in
accordance with the contents of said description file (*package.ini*).

3. Process according to claim 2 characterised in that said executable file has an entry point which is a service entry and which is further registered by said NT Service Control Manager with an option of the command line which refers to said description file (*package.ini*).

5

4. Process according to claim 3 characterised in that said description file (*package.ini*) contains a list of the installation files required for a local setup procedure plus an additional line defining the command which is to be entered for executing an unattended setup procedure of said software application.

10

5. Process according to claim 1 comprising the display of a Graphical User Interface (GUI) for providing to the user a list of software applications which are currently available on the NT domain as well as a list of the computer clients therein included, and further including a drag-and-drop mechanism for the purpose of launching an additional remote setup procedure in a new PC client.

15

6. Process according to claim 1 characterised in that it involves the step of:

- prompting the user to enter a particular context where said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) is to be executed;
- requesting the id and password corresponding to that context;
- verifying said id and password being entered by the user and, in accordance with the verification, installing said executable file as a NT service.

20

7. Process according to claim 1 characterised in that the installation of the NT service is followed by the activation of a Wake-on-LAN function in said PC client for the purpose of starting said service.

25

8. Process executed in a IT administrator console (1) for the purpose of controlling the remote installation of software application packages into at least one PC client, said process involving the steps of:

30

- installing an executable file (*pushservice.exe*) as a NT service under the control of a NT Service Control Manager (SCM), said executable file controlling the local setup

procedure of a software application in unattended mode in accordance with a description defined by a description file (*package.ini*) present on shared resources;

- starting said executable file as a NT service for the purpose of launching the setup procedure within said PC client.

9. Process for controlling the execution on a remote PC client of an executable file existing on shared resources in a NT domain, characterised in that it involves the steps of:

10

- installing said executable file as an NT service under the control of the NT Service Control Manager (SCM);
- starting said installed service for the purpose of automatically triggering the execution of said executable file.

15

10. Server for a NT domain comprising a LAN or an Intranet network, characterised in that it includes:

20

- at least one software installation package existing as shared resources within said NT domain, each of said at least one package comprising a set of installation files required for a local setup procedure within said at least one PC client;

25

- A description file (*package.ini*) which comprises a description of all installation files, and further including a command for controlling an unattended setup procedure;

30

- an executable file (*pushservice.exe*) existing as shared resources and receiving the format of a NT service, said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) being installed as a NT service by the NT Service Control Manager and receiving, as an option to the command line, a reference to said description file; said executable file causing, when started as a service, the execution of the local setup procedure within said at least one PC client.

FOR "SERIALIZED"

As mentioned above, the software package, comprising the installation files for a local setup and the additional mechanism description *package.ini* file are all located on server 2. It should be noticed, however, that this is only an example of embodiment, and that the software package may be located in different locations or shared resources within the NT domain. In particular, the installation packages
5 may also be loaded into the IT administrator console 1.

HP50001723